



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Raised Bill No. 7151

LCO No. 4016

* ____HB07151JUD__041307__ *

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

Introduced by:
(JUD)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE CLOSURE OF THE CONNECTICUT
JUVENILE TRAINING SCHOOL AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
REGIONAL TRAINING, REHABILITATION AND EDUCATION
CENTERS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The Commissioner of
2 Children and Families shall establish a pilot program in one region of
3 the state, as determined by the commissioner, for the purpose of
4 developing a comprehensive system of community-based services for
5 children in the juvenile justice system who have been committed to the
6 Department of Children and Families. The pilot program shall support
7 the reintegration of such children into the community by (1) enhancing
8 the capacity of local resources, agencies and organizations to furnish
9 support for such children and their families, and (2) providing for
10 intensive in-home clinical services, care coordinators, educational
11 advocates, access to systems of care and support, mentoring services,
12 respite care and case management assistance. Not later than February
13 1, 2008, the commissioner shall submit a report to the joint standing
14 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
15 relating to the judiciary, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general

16 statutes, concerning the operation and effectiveness of the pilot
17 program established under this section and the commissioner's
18 recommendations for the state-wide implementation of the system of
19 community-based services developed under the pilot program and the
20 integration of that system with the regional training, rehabilitation and
21 education centers established pursuant to section 2 of this act.

22 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) On and after the date on
23 which residential placements of male children at the Connecticut
24 Juvenile Training School cease to be made because of the planned
25 closure of said school, any male child who is convicted as delinquent
26 and committed to the Department of Children and Families and who is
27 determined by the department to be in the highest risk level, as
28 provided in subsection (j) of section 46b-140 of the general statutes, as
29 amended by this act, shall be placed by the Commissioner of Children
30 and Families at a regional training, rehabilitation and education center
31 established in accordance with subsection (b) of this section. The
32 commissioner shall place such child in the regional training,
33 rehabilitation and education center for the geographic region in which
34 such child has his principal place of residence.

35 (b) Not later than the date on which residential placements of male
36 children at the Connecticut Juvenile Training School cease to be made
37 because of the planned closure of said school, the Commissioner of
38 Children and Families shall establish not less than three regional
39 training, rehabilitation and education centers in this state for male
40 children convicted as delinquent who require placement in a secure
41 residential facility, and shall designate the geographic region served by
42 each center. Each regional training, rehabilitation and education center
43 shall (1) house not more than twenty-four male children at one time,
44 (2) have adequate and secure residence facilities, school facilities and
45 recreation areas, and (3) provide clinical treatment, educational,
46 employment, family support, rehabilitation, case management and
47 other services focused on the successful reintegration of such children
48 into the community.

49 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) The Connecticut Juvenile
50 Training School shall not be closed, and residential placements of male
51 children at said school shall not cease to be made, until such time as
52 the regional training, rehabilitation and education centers required
53 pursuant to section 2 of this act are fully operational and capable of
54 providing all required services.

55 (b) The site and facilities of the Connecticut Juvenile Training
56 School, or any part of such site and facilities, shall not be used by the
57 state as a correctional institution or facility or a juvenile detention
58 center at any time after the closure of said school.

59 Sec. 4. Subsection (b) of section 17a-11 of the general statutes is
60 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
61 *1, 2007*):

62 (b) A child or youth voluntarily admitted to the department shall be
63 deemed to be within the care of the commissioner until such admission
64 is terminated. The commissioner shall terminate the admission of any
65 child or youth voluntarily admitted to the department within ten days
66 after receipt of a written request for termination from a parent or
67 guardian of any such child under fourteen years of age, or from [a]
68 such child if such child is fourteen years of age or older, or from such
69 youth, unless prior to the expiration of that time the commissioner has
70 sought and received from the Superior Court an order of temporary
71 custody as provided by law. The commissioner may terminate the
72 admission of any child or youth voluntarily admitted to the
73 department after giving reasonable notice in writing to the parent or
74 guardian of any such child under fourteen years of age, [and to a] or to
75 such child if such child is fourteen years of age or older, [and to any] or
76 to such youth. Any child or youth admitted voluntarily to the
77 department may be placed in, or transferred to, any resource, facility
78 or institution within the department or available to the commissioner
79 except the Connecticut Juvenile Training School or a regional training,
80 rehabilitation and education center established pursuant to section 2 of
81 this act, provided the commissioner shall give written notice to such

82 child or youth and to the parent or guardian of the child of the
83 commissioner's intention to make a transfer at least ten days prior to
84 any actual transfer, unless written notice is waived by those entitled to
85 receive it, or unless an emergency commitment of such child or youth
86 is made pursuant to section 17a-502.

87 Sec. 5. Section 17a-12 of the general statutes is repealed and the
88 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

89 (a) When the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee,
90 determines that a change of program is in the best interest of any child
91 or youth committed or transferred to the department, the
92 commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, may transfer such
93 [person] child or youth to any appropriate resource or program
94 administered by or available to the department, to any other state
95 department or agency, or to any private agency or organization within
96 or without the state under contract with the department; provided no
97 child or youth voluntarily admitted to the department under section
98 17a-11, as amended by this act, shall be placed or subsequently
99 transferred to the Connecticut Juvenile Training School or a regional
100 training, rehabilitation and education center established pursuant to
101 section 2 of this act; and further provided no transfer shall be made to
102 any institution, hospital or facility under the jurisdiction of the
103 Department of Correction, except as authorized by section 18-87,
104 unless it is so ordered by the Superior Court after a hearing. When, in
105 the opinion of the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, a
106 person fourteen years of age or older is dangerous to himself or herself
107 or others or cannot be safely held at the Connecticut Juvenile Training
108 School or a regional training, rehabilitation and education center
109 established pursuant to section 2 of this act, if a male, or at any other
110 facility within the state available to the Commissioner of Children and
111 Families, the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, may
112 request an immediate hearing before the Superior Court on the docket
113 for juvenile matters where such person was originally committed to
114 determine whether such person shall be transferred to the John R.

115 Manson Youth Institution, Cheshire, if a male, or the Connecticut
116 Correctional Institution, Niantic, if a female. The court shall, within
117 three days of the hearing, make such determination. If the court orders
118 such transfer, the transfer shall be reviewed by the court every six
119 months thereafter to determine whether it should be continued or
120 terminated, unless the commissioner has already exercised the powers
121 granted to the commissioner under section 17a-13 by removing such
122 person from the John R. Manson Youth Institution, Cheshire or the
123 Connecticut Correctional Institution, Niantic.

124 (b) Unless ordered by the Superior Court at the time of
125 commitment, no child or youth committed to the commissioner shall
126 be placed in or transferred to a state-operated residential mental health
127 facility under the jurisdiction of the commissioner without a hearing
128 before the commissioner or the commissioner's designee. Such hearing
129 shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.

130 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) of this section,
131 (1) any delinquent child, if a male, may be placed at any time in the
132 Connecticut Juvenile Training School or a regional training,
133 rehabilitation and education center as provided in section 2 of this act,
134 and (2) the commissioner may transfer any child or youth committed
135 to the commissioner to any institution, hospital or facility for mentally
136 ill children under the commissioner's jurisdiction for a period not to
137 exceed fifteen days if the need for such emergency treatment is
138 certified by a psychiatrist licensed to practice medicine by the state.

139 Sec. 6. Subsection (j) of section 46b-140 of the general statutes is
140 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
141 *1, 2007*):

142 (j) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the court may order
143 that a child be (1) committed to the Department of Children and
144 Families and [be] placed directly in a residential facility within this
145 state and under contract with said department, or (2) committed to the
146 Commissioner of Children and Families for placement by the

147 commissioner, in said commissioner's discretion, (A) with respect to
 148 the juvenile offenders determined by the Department of Children and
 149 Families to be in the highest risk level, in the Connecticut Juvenile
 150 Training School or a regional training, rehabilitation and education
 151 center as provided in section 2 of this act, if the juvenile offender is a
 152 male, or in another state facility, presumptively for a minimum period
 153 of twelve months, or (B) in a private residential or day treatment
 154 facility within or outside this state, or (C) on parole. The commissioner
 155 shall use a risk and needs assessment classification system to ensure
 156 that male children who are in the highest risk level will be placed in
 157 the Connecticut Juvenile Training School or a regional training,
 158 rehabilitation and education center as provided in section 2 of this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	17a-11(b)
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	17a-12
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	46b-140(j)

JUD *Joint Favorable*